

American Antiquarian Society

Manuscript Collections

NAME OF COLLECTION:

Quinby Family, Account Books, 1743-1805

LOCATION:

Folio vols. "Q"
Octavo vols. "Q"
Misc. mss. boxes "Q"
Oversize mss. boxes "Q"

SIZE OF COLLECTION:

10 folio volumes; 3 octavo volumes; 1 folder (5 items); 1 oversize folder (1 item)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:

For genealogical information, see Henry Cole Quinby, *Genealogical History of the Quinby (Quimby) Family* (New York: The Tuttle Company, 1915), vol. I, p. 139-150 and 209-221.

SOURCE OF COLLECTION:

Gift of Matt B. Jones, 1932

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:

Joseph Quinby (1715-1776) was born in Massachusetts and settled in Falmouth (later Portland), Me. He was a ship builder and owned considerable property in the Portland area. His son, John Quinby (1760-1806) served as a captain in the Massachusetts militia. His business was building and fitting out ships and he owned a shop in connection with this enterprise. He owned several ships, two of which were captured by the French in the late 1790s. Joseph Quinby, Jr. (1746-1777), Thomas Quinby (1752-1781), and Levi Quinby (1761-1786?) were also sons of Joseph Quinby whose names appear in these accounts. Joseph and John Quinby operated a general merchandise business. The goods were probably acquired in connection with their shipping interests.

This collection consists of nineteen account books that record the Quinbys' extensive trade with local residents in general merchandise (i.e., sundries such as coffee, rum, molasses, salt, etc.). The records also include accounts of farm and shipbuilding activities, labor exchanges, and interspersed accounts of lumber purchases.

Accounts dating from 1743 to 1781, included in three volumes, pertain to Joseph Quinby's business activity, with mention of his sons, while the majority of the volumes concern John Quinby's trade, being primarily day books. The oversize item is an account for 1788; 1792-1793; 1802-1805; it records Quinby's lumber purchases—its quantity, quality, and price.

See Contents List.

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Contents List

Folio Volume

1	John Quinby, Account Book, 1776-1783
2	John Quinby, Account Book, 1782-1792
3	John Quinby, Account Book, 1783-1794
4	John Quinby, Day Book, 1783-1785
5	John Quinby, Day Book, 1784-1785
6	John Quinby, Day Book, 1785-1790
7	John Quinby, Day Book, 1785-1786
8	John Quinby, Day Book, 1786-1787
9	John Quinby, Day Book, 1788-1791
10	John Quinby, Day Book, 1798-1802

Octavo Volume

1	John Quinby, Day Book, 1778-1782
2	John Quinby, Day Book, 1791-1792
3	John Quinby, Day Book, 1796-1798

Folder

Joseph Quinby, Account Book, 1743-1766; Joseph Quinby, Account Book (several leaves), 1764-1786; Quinby Family, Account Book, 1773-1781; John Quinby, Day Book, 1780-1782; John Quinby, Day Book, 1782-1783

Oversize Folder

John Quinby, Account Book (Lumber), 1788; 1792-1793; 1802-1805